



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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CIVIL PENALTIES ISSUED AT ENFORCEMENT HEARING

Olympia – Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Michael Connelly, found 13 elected officials in violation of state Public Disclosure laws during brief enforcement hearings held Thursday in Olympia.

Connelly said while sympathetic to the individual circumstances of each official it is clear that the mandated reports were not timely filed.

Elected officials and certain state appointed officials are required under state statute to file an annual Personal Financial Affairs Statement with the Public Disclosure Commission by April 15th reporting financial activity for the preceding year.

The governmental officials who were issued a civil penalty had previously been sent a warning letter asking them to comply with the reporting requirements. A letter reminding each official of his or her obligation to file was sent on May 7, 2004 or May 28, 2004 and a letter with an opportunity to pay a civil penalty and forego an enforcement hearing was sent on June 24, 2004.

Elected officials who were assessed a penalty at the brief enforcement hearing were:

Garci Duncan, School Director for the Entiat School District 127, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100 with \$50 suspended if no further violations occur for the next two years.

James Fossos, Fire Commissioner for the King Fire Protection District # 26, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100 with \$50 suspended if no further violations occur for the next two years.

Stuart Lisk, City Council Member for the City of Carnation, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$300.

Bradley Gehring, City Council Member for the City of Bremerton, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

San Juana Gonzales, Trustee at Yakima Valley College, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Brian McMahan, Fire Commissioner for the Snohomish Fire protection District #1, agreed to stipulate to a violation of state law and pay a civil penalty of \$100 within 30 days.

Bruce Miller, School Director for the Mukilteo School District #006, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$200.

Gary Morgan, City Council Member for the City of Brier, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$400.

Thomas Agnew, Commissioner for the Liberty Lake Sewer District #1, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$200 with \$100 suspended if no further violations occur for the next two years.

Walter Jaspers, Port Commissioner for the Port of Wahkiakum County District #2, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Joe Wheeler, City Council Member for the City of Kelso, was given seven days to pay a \$100 stipulated penalty after agreeing to a violation of state law. If the payment is not timely received, the penalty will be \$400.

Wayne Washer, Commissioner for the Peninsula Park and Recreation District, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Susan Beck, Commissioner for the Peninsula Park and Recreation District, was found in violation of state law and assessed a civil penalty of \$200.

Connelly also vacated the violation order and penalty assessed **Thomas Muller**, School Director for the Pe Ell School District #301, who was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150 at the June hearing. Muller was not required to file the financial affairs report due to the small size of the school district.

Officials found in violation at the hearing will have an opportunity to ask the full, five-member Commission to review the action taken by the Chair.